

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An apparatus comprising:  
2 a fuel cell;  
3 a secondary secondary power source; and  
4 a controller to multiplex the fuel cell and secondary power source.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to signal a load  
2 device to reduce a load.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to start the fuel  
2 cell and provide power from the secondary power source while the fuel cell is  
3 starting.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to start the fuel  
2 cell and to signal a load device that the fuel cell is starting.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to charge the  
2 secondary power source with the fuel cell.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 further including an interface to a load device, the  
2 interface including:  
3 at least one power conductor; and  
4 at least one signal conductor to signal a state of the controller.
- 1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the at least one signal conductor includes a  
2 conductor to signal a load device to reduce a load.
- 1 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the secondary power source comprises a  
2 battery.

- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the battery comprises a Lithium-Ion  
2 battery.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the battery comprises a Nickel-Metal-  
2 Hydride battery.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the secondary power source comprises a  
2 capacitor.
- 1 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the capacitor comprises a supercapacitor.
- 1 13. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the secondary power source comprises a  
2 battery and a supercapacitor.
- 1 14. A method comprising:  
2 starting a fuel cell; and  
3 while the fuel cell is starting, signaling a load device to reduce a load.
- 1 15. The method of claim 14 further comprising:  
2 while the fuel cell is starting, providing power from a secondary power  
3 source.
- 1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein providing power from a secondary power  
2 source comprises providing power from a battery.
- 1 17. The method of claim 15 wherein providing power from a secondary power  
2 source comprises providing power from a capacitor.

1 18. The method of claim 15 wherein providing power from a secondary power  
2 source comprises providing power from a battery and capacitor combination.

1 19. The method of claim 15 further comprising signaling a load device to reduce  
2 a load if the secondary power source becomes depleted.

1 20. An apparatus including a medium adapted to hold machine-accessible  
2 instructions that when accessed result in a machine performing:  
3 starting a fuel cell; and  
4 while the fuel cell is starting, signaling a load device to reduce a load.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising:  
2 while the fuel cell is starting, providing power from a secondary power  
3 source.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein providing power from a secondary power  
2 source comprises providing power from a battery and capacitor combination.

1 23. An electronic system comprising:  
2 a fuel cell;  
3 a secondary power source;  
4 a controller to multiplex the fuel cell and secondary power source; and  
5 a load device that includes an antenna.

1 24. The electronic system of claim 23 wherein the controller is adapted to signal  
2 the load device to reduce a load.

1 25. The electronic system of claim 23 wherein the controller is adapted to start  
2 the fuel cell and provide power from the secondary power source while the fuel cell  
3 is starting.

1 26. The electronic system of claim 23 wherein the electronic system comprises a  
2 computer.

1 27. The electronic system of claim 26 wherein the fuel cell is external to the  
2 computer.

1 28. The electronic system of claim 26 wherein the fuel cell is in a swappable bay  
2 of the computer.

1 29. The electronic system of claim 28 wherein the fuel cell is semi-permanently  
2 affixed within the computer.